

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Output signals  $V_p$  from a density sensor are sampled for plural positions on an intermediate transfer belt and an amount of toner adhesion is determined based on the results of sampling. Since these sample data pieces may contain noises, each predetermined number of data pieces of higher order and of lower order are removed from the resultant sample data string. The removed data pieces are each replaced by an average value  $V_{pavg}$  of the other sample data pieces. The amount of toner adhesion is calculated based on the data string thus replaced.

(Fig.10)